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Dulles

Ex-CIA Boss Isn't

Rattled

By WILLIAM K. STEVENS

CPYRGHT
NORFOLK —

Fidel Castro's rocket-rattling threats against U.S. reconnaissance flights over Cuba don't seem to pose a serious challenge, Allen W. Dulles said here Friday.

"We may have borrowed a little trouble we didn't need to borrow" by announcing U.S. intentions to continue the flights, the former Central Intelligence Agency director told a press conference.

But he said he doesn't think Castro's threat to stop the flights will seriously affect U.S. policy on Cuba.

Dulles was in Norfolk as main speaker for the annual Law Day observance of the Virginia State Bar Association.

He told interviewers at Norfolk Municipal Airport, and later repeated to his evening audience, that he thinks Castro might shoot at U.S. reconnaissance planes but miss them on purpose.

"I don't think he wants to get into any more trouble," Dulles said, "and yet he doesn't want to admit it's alright for us to fly over his territory. He can get out of that by missing a little bit."

"I'm inclined to think we'd have done just as well if we hadn't advertised" the spy flights, the 71-year old Dulles said. "That goes against the grain of an intelligence man."

Dulles was a member of CIA for 10 years, including 8 years as director.

He was asked how the spy flights can be justified under international law.

"How can you justify any espionage?" he answered. And later, in his Law Day talk in the Center Theater, he said it's "self-defeating" to rely on the rule of law as the sole guideline in dealings with Communist nations.

"Such a stand is no more sensible than it is to say that in boxing it would be a fair contest if one contestant were bound by the Marquis of Queensberry rules and the other by no rules at all," he said.

Dulles told the press conference

once that a new invasion of Cuba by Cuban exiles is "unlikely," since the situation has changed greatly since the abortive Bay of Pigs landing in April 1961.

Even then, Dulles said, "time was running out." Russian MIG aircraft already were in Cuba during the Bay of Pigs invasion, he said, but they were crated.

Now they're no longer crated, and Cuba is too well armed, he said.

Dulles was CIA director during the Bay of Pigs invasion, and was intimately involved with the operation that Castro crushed.

He would not comment on what went wrong.

"President Kennedy assumed responsibility for what was done" and asked everyone else involved to reserve comment, Dulles said. "I've respected that so far."

Dulles said he doubts Russia will leave any nuclear weapons

under Cuban control when Soviet troops pull out of the island.

And he indicated that the role of the Cuban exiles is diminishing.

"There's some question about whether the future government of Cuba is going to be drawn from the exile ranks," he said.

Dulles now is in private law practice and is a member of the Presidential commission investigating the assassination of President Kennedy.

He would give no preview of what the commission's ultimate report might say or when it might be forthcoming, but he hinted that some new facts may be made public when the report does appear.

"The 15 lawyers and seven commission members haven't been working for several months doing nothing," he said.

Dulles, who long has been active in U.S. diplomacy and involved in its intelligence activities, said he was certain Defense Secretary Robert S. McNamara's estimate of U.S. missile superiority over Russia is accurate.

"Our intelligence in that field is very accurate," he said.

In his talk in the Center Theater Friday night, Dulles warned the United States must never relax its guard in dealings with the Communist world.

"We should be realistic" and recognize that Soviet policy is to "bury us through preaching coexistence and practicing the art of revolution," he said.

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He said the Communist nations will not abandon their goal of world revolution "until by evolution, peaceful change or otherwise, the Communist system breaks down."

One way to break it down is to keep the channels of negotiation and cultural and scientific exchange open, so that "we may open avenues for encouraging a fundamental change in their society."

At any rate, he said, U.S. policy should be consistently realistic in its assessment of Communist intentions "and not alter our lines of conduct" every time (the Communists) choose to smile or change again when they frown.

He cited instance after instance in which the Soviet Union has broken agreements and he insisted that no agreement should be made without practical means of enforcement.

"Today we are in a position to negotiate from strength and not from weakness," he said.

"Relying on the fundamental fact that our free system of life is basically superior to that of the Communist system," he said, "we should seek a peaceful confrontation with communism in all fields."